



**MIDDLETON POLICE
DEPARTMENT**

DATE
February 6, 2013

POLICY
6.1.06

SUBJECT: **Seat Belt Use Required**

REVIEWED
February 27, 2018

Refer to: [347.48\(2m\)](#)

History: 1995, Updated 2/2013; 05/2015

WILEAG (5th Ed.) Standards: 6.1.6

PURPOSE

The use of safety belts can have a significant effect in reducing the number of deaths and the severity of injuries, and assist officers in maintaining proper control of their vehicles during pursuit or emergency high speed operations. The purpose of this policy is to establish requirements that employees and passengers properly use safety restraining devices.

POLICY

All employees operating or occupying any moving vehicle shall wear an available safety belt, whether on or off duty, except where specifically exempted by statute [347.48\(2m\)](#) or in this policy. Civilian and other non-departmental occupants of department vehicles are also required to wear their available safety belts. It is the responsibility of the driver to ensure the compliance of all occupants with this directive. Employees shall not operate a city vehicle lacking an operable safety belt if a replacement vehicle is available.

There may be special circumstances in which use of safety belts may hamper efficient conduct of law enforcement functions. Supervisors are authorized to grant exceptions to this directive for those specific situations in which they deem efficiency of operations outweighs the safety benefit. The Chief of Police may grant exceptions to this directive for specific employees who are unable to use safety belts for medical or physical reasons.